

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /074 W

----- 123573

R 300705Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6741

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

UNCLAS GABORONE 0861

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BC, UG, OAU

SUBJECT: GOB STATEMENT ON DECISION NOT TO ATTEND OAU
CONFERENCE IN KAMPALA

REFERENCE: GABORONE 0848

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE PRESS RELEASE ISSUED BY
THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT REFERRED TO IN THE REFERENCE
REGARDING THE DECISION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA NOT
TO ATTEND THE OAU MEETING SCHEDULED FOR KAMPALA IN JULY.

2. QUOTE HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT SIR SERETSE KHAMA
ACTING ON THE ADVICE OF HIS CABINET HAS DECIDED THAT
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BOTSWANA WOULD NOT ATTEND THE O.A.U. MEETINGS IN KAMPALA,

UGANDA IN JULY 1975. THIS DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN BECAUSE THE BOTSWANA GOVERNMENT FEARS FOR THE PERSONAL SAFETY OF THE MEMBERS OF ITS DELEGATION IF THEY SHOULD ATTEND THE MEETINGS. GENERAL AMIN'S APPARENT DISREGARD FOR THE SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE AND HIS EXHORTATION TO THE ARMED FORCES IN BOTSWANA, TANZANIA AND ZAMBIA TO OVERTHROW THEIR SELECTED GOVERNMENTS BECAUSE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE RECENT ATTEMPTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE RHODESIAN DISPUTE, ARE THE FACTORS WHICH HAVE LED TO THIS DECISION. END QUOTE.

3. THE STATEMENT MAKES CLEAR THAT THE DECISION WAS MADE TO ATTEND NEITHER THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S MEETING NOR THE HEADS OF STATE MEETING.

THOMSEN

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